

***Congressman
J. Randy Forbes***
Fourth District of Virginia



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Contact: Christine Shott
(202) 225-6365

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Forbes announces \$400,000 in federal funding for Smithfield
House passes Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act for 2004

Washington, D.C. – Congressman J. Randy Forbes (VA-04) announced that the **Pagan River Federal Navigation Project** would receive **\$400,000** in federal funding as part of the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act for 2004.

“Funding for this project is wonderful news for Smithfield and for the entire Fourth District of Virginia, especially during the tough times we are in as a nation and amidst tight budgetary constraints across the Commonwealth,” Forbes said.

The Pagan River is a tributary of the James River. The Pagan River navigation channel requires maintenance dredging to remove hazardous shoals along the waterway. Funding in the amount of \$400,000 will be used to prepare plans and specifications, and advertise and award a dredging contract for the Pagan River Navigation Project.

“Maintaining navigable waterways is important to our commercial and recreational boaters, as it’s harder for the larger vessels to move through the water at low tide. We’re very appreciative of Congressman Forbes’ efforts in helping us to receive this funding,” stated Peter Stephenson, Smithfield Town Manager.

On behalf of Smithfield, Forbes requested funding for the Pagan River project from the House Appropriations Committee. Today, the House of Representatives passed the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act for 2004. The bill will now be reviewed by a conference of members within the House and Senate to determine its final provisions.